

Message Text

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ORIGIN SY-05

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJECT: ROVING PATROL

REF: A) BOGOTA 4975 B) STATE A-688 C) BOGOTA 2617

1. THE DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES THE EMBASSY'S EFFORTS
IN CONSIDERING FEASIBLE ALTERNATIVES TO STATIC GUARD
COVERAGE OF ALL MISSION RESIDENCES. BEFORE THE RE-
QUEST CAN BE PROCESSED FURTHER, THE DEPARTMENT DESIRES
THAT THE POST RESPOND TO THE CRITERIA OF REF B AS SET
FORTH BELOW:

A. DOES THE THREAT AND/OR CRIMINAL SITUATION WARRANT
INSTITUTION OF A ROVING PATROL? A REVIEW OF RECENT
INTELLIGENCE DATA, SWC MINUTES, AND RSO MONTHLY STATUS
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REPORTS DOES NOT CLEARLY REFLECT A LEVEL OF RAMPANT
CRIMINAL ACTIVITY OR TERRORIST TARGETING OF U.S. MISSION
GENERAL STAFF. IT WAS NOTED IN THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH
21 MEETING OF THE SWC THAT, "...THE COMMITTEE AGREED
THAT THE INCIDENTS SHOULD BE TREATED AS POSSIBLE SURVEIL-
LANCE BY A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION...". NO ADDITIONAL OR
SUBSEQUENT INFORMATION COULD BE LOCATED WHICH WOULD SUP-

PORT THIS SUPPOSITION, OTHER THAN THAT REPORTED IN REF C.
THE DEPARTMENT HAS NO OTHER INDICATION THAT THE MISSION

AND/OR IT'S AMERICAN STAFF HAVE BEEN TARGETED.

B. HAS THE POST CONSIDERED REDUCTIONS IN STAFF, CONSOLIDATING HOUSING, ETC? OUR DATA REVIEW TOOK NOTE OF THE MINUTES OF THE SWC MEETING HELD ON APRIL 14 WHICH REFLECTS, "THE CHARGE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT IF THE SECURITY SITUATION DETERIORATED TO THE POINT OF WARRANTING MISSION-WIDE GUARD SERVICE, PRIOR STEPS WOULD HAVE TO BE TAKEN TO REDUCE THE SIZE OF THE MISSION". PLEASE PROVIDE SPECIFIC ACTION TAKEN OR CONTEMPLATED BY THE EMBASSY.

C. WHAT WAS THE REACTION OF THE HOST GOVERNMENT TO THE EMBASSY'S REQUEST FOR INCREASED PROTECTIVE SERVICES?

D. HAS THE POST CONSIDERED OPTIONS OTHER THAN STATIC GUARDS OR ROVING PATROLS, I.E., INSTALLATION OF PROTECTIVE GRILLWORK, PERIMETER ILLUMINATION, CREATION OF RESIDENCE SAFEHAVENS, AND USE OF ANTI-INTRUSION ALARMS? ALL OF THE FOREGOING OFFER SUPERIOR PROTECTION TO ANY RANDOM PATROL IN THAT THEY ARE PERMANENTLY IN PLACE.

2. SPECIFIC ANSWERS TO THE FOLLOWING WOULD ALSO BE APPRECIATED:

A. WILL GUARDS BE UNIFORMED, ARMED, AND HAVE POWERS OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ARREST AND DETENTION?

B. IF ARMED, WHAT IS THE LEVEL OF PROFICIENCY WITH WEAPONS? WHO WOULD PROVIDE THE WEAPONS?

C. WILL GUARDS HAVE ADDITIONAL EXPERTISE IN FIRST-AID, FIRE FIGHTING, ETC?

D. WILL GUARDS HAVE RADIO COMMUNICATIONS CAPABILITY IN ALL AREAS? WITH WHOM? WHO IS EXPECTED TO FURNISH AND SERVICE THE RADIO EQUIPMENT?

3. INCLUDE SUMMARY OF GUARD OR HOST GOVERNMENT FORCES NOW UTILIZED, WHERE POSTED, AND WORKING HOURS. VANCE

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